



MARCH 10-11 PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON DELTA PLAN

On March 10-11 the Delta Stewardship Council will conduct a public workshop on priorities to be addressed in a Delta Plan. The workshop will be organized around three panels:

- Panel A: Protecting, Restoring, and Enhancing the Delta Ecosystem
- Panel B: Providing a More Reliable Water Supply for California
- Panel C: Reduce Risks to People, Property, and State Interests in the Delta

Panelists have been invited by the Council to address specific questions presented below. For each panel, panelists will have up to five minutes to identify priorities that a Delta Plan should include. Each panelist has been requested to provide a handout listing recommended priorities in bulleted format. Individual panelist presentations will be followed by a facilitated dialog among Council members and panelists addressing recommended priorities. At the conclusion of each panel there will be a limited amount of time reserved for comments from members of the public; these comments should focus on the panel topic, presentations, and dialog. Each panel is expected to last between 2.5 and 3 hours.

The workshop will begin at 10 a.m. on March 10 with Panel A. The agenda for the workshop is posted on the Council web site:

[http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/workshops/Meeting Notice 2011 03 10 workshop.pdf](http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/workshops/Meeting%20Notice%202011%2003%2010%20workshop.pdf).

Panel A: Protecting, Restoring, and Enhancing the Delta Ecosystem

For each of the following questions, please address:

- How will your priorities protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place?
- Which of your priorities should be accomplished through regulation?
- Which of your priorities should be accomplished through recommendation to the Legislature?
- In general terms, what will your priorities cost?

1. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Manage the Delta's water and environmental resources and the water resources of the state over the long term? [Water Code Section 85020(a)]

2. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Protect, maintain, and, where possible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the Delta environment, including, but not limited to, agriculture, wildlife habitat, and recreational activities? [Public Resources Code Section 29702(b)]

Restore the Delta ecosystem, including its fisheries and wildlife, as the heart of a healthy estuary and wetland ecosystem? [Water Code Section 85020(c)]

3. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Develop new or improved aquatic and terrestrial habitat and protect existing habitats to advance the goal of restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem? [Water Code Section 85022(d)(5)]

Include measures that promote all of the following characteristics of a healthy Delta ecosystem Water Code Section 85302(c):

- *Viable populations of native resident and migratory species*
- *Functional corridors for migratory species*
- *Diverse and biologically appropriate habitats and ecosystem processes*
- *Reduced threats and stresses on the Delta ecosystem*
- *Conditions conducive to meeting or exceeding the goals in existing species recovery plans and state and federal goals with respect to doubling salmon populations?*

Include the following sub-goals and strategies [Water Code Section 85302(e)]:

- *Restore large areas of interconnected habitats within the Delta and its watersheds by 2100*
- *Establish migratory corridors for fish, birds, and other animals along selected Delta river channels*
- *Promote self-sustaining, diverse populations of native and valued species by reducing the risk of take and harm from invasive species*
- *Restore Delta flows and channels to support a healthy estuary and other ecosystems*
- *Improve water quality to meet drinking water, agricultural, and ecosystem long-term goals*
- *Restore habitat necessary to avoid a net loss of migratory bird habitat and, where feasible, increase migratory bird habitat to promote viable populations of migratory birds?*

Panel B: Providing a More Reliable Water Supply for California:

For each of the following questions, please address:

- How will your priorities protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place?
- Which of your priorities should be accomplished through regulation?
- Which of your priorities should be accomplished through recommendation to the Legislature?
- In general terms, what will your priorities cost?

1. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Manage the Delta's water and environmental resources and the water resources of the state over the long term? [Water Code Section 85020(a)]

Improve water quality to protect human health and the environment consistent with achieving water quality objectives in the Delta? [Water Code Sections 85020(e) and 85022(d)(6)]

2. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Achieve the objective of promoting statewide water conservation, water use efficiency, and sustainable water use? [Water Code Section 85020(d)]

*Promote statewide water conservation, water use efficiency, and sustainable use of water.
[Water Code Section 85303]*

3. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Achieve the objective of improving the water conveyance system and expanding statewide water storage? [Water Code Section 85020(f)]

Promote options for new and improved infrastructure relating to the water conveyance in the Delta, storage systems, and for the operation of both to achieve the coequal goals? [Water Code Section 85304]

4. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

[Include measures to] promote a more reliable water supply that address all of the following [Water Code Section 85302(d)]:

- (1) Meeting the needs for reasonable and beneficial uses of water*
- (2) Sustaining the economic vitality of the state*
- (3) Improving water quality to protect human health and the environment?*

Panel C: Reduce Risks to People, Property,
and State Interests in the Delta

For each of the following questions, please address:

- How will your priorities protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place?
- Which of your priorities should be accomplished through regulation?
- Which of your priorities should be accomplished through recommendation to the Legislature?
- In general terms, what will your priorities cost?

1. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Ensure orderly, balanced conservation and development of Delta land resources? [Public Resources Code Section 29702(c)]

Reduce risks to people, property, and state interest in the Delta by effective emergency preparedness, appropriate land uses, and investments in flood protection? [Water Code Section 85020(g)]

Attempt to reduce risks to people, property, and state interests in the Delta by promoting effective emergency preparedness, appropriate land uses, and strategic levee investments? [Water Code Section 85305(a)]

Incorporate into the Delta Plan the emergency preparedness and response strategies for the Delta developed by the California Emergency Management Agency pursuant to Section 12994.5? [Water Code Section 85305(b)]

2. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Improve flood protection by structural and nonstructural means to ensure an increased level of public health and safety? [Public Resources Code Section 29702(d)]

Recommend [in consultation with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board] priorities for state investments in levee operation, maintenance, and improvements in the Delta, including both levees that are a part of the State Plan of Flood Control and non-project levees? [Water Code Section 85306]

Identify actions to be taken outside of the Delta, if those actions are determined to significantly reduce flood risks in the Delta? [Water Resources Code Section 85307(a)]

Include local plans of flood protection? [Water Resources Code Section 85307(b)]

Reach a decision about incorporating the Department of Water Resources' proposal to coordinate flood and water supply operations of the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project? [Water Resources Code Section 85309]

3. From your perspective, what are the top three priorities the Delta Plan should include in order to:

Address the effects of climate change and sea level rise on the three state highways that cross the Delta [in consultation with the Department of Transportation]? [Water Code Section 85307(c)]

Incorporate additional actions to address the needs of Delta energy development, energy storage, and energy [transmission and] distribution [in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission and the Public Utilities Commission]? [Water Resources Code Section 85307(d)]